OTVARC Oscillator

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

January 1995 Issue

Prez Sez - Bill - N7VZF

Well, 1995 has arrived. Much sooner than I like. But there isn't much that I can do about that. I guess I will have to just "Relax and Enjoy it!"

There are some good things that come with the start of the year. It means that there is only 1.7 more years before the solar cycle starts the up-swing; we find out if the Republicans are any better or any worse than the Democrats back in DC; Field Day is less than 6 months away; I have a new chance to accomplish some of the goals that I had for 1994.

As you have probably noticed, this issue of the news letter is even later than my previous record. It seems that although December has 31 days just like 6 other months - (Remember, 30 days has September, April, June and November, all the rest are pronounced "A" as in Neighbor and Weigh).... I ran out of month by about the 15th this year. It has something to do with clients holding off their computer hardware/software/ network upgrades until the end of the year; 3 children out of school for winter break; 5 newsletters to write for clients... you get the point. Consider it an excuse but it is the truth. Anyway, the bottom line is, I apologize to Al Berg who prints and mails the newsletters. It really puts him in a crunch to get them out to you before the first meeting.

So what is new for 1995. Well, we have a total of 7 new members on the board of directors. Actually, there are only 5 new members of the board and 1 who was here last year in a different position. Wes Allen was re-elected as Trustee (2 year) and continues to serve on the board.

We have a new Vice-President - Janet Bell - WB7FJC. Janet isn't new to most of you. She has been active in the club for some time. Janet works for the OEM (Office of Emergency Management) for Washington County. She is also active in CAP and Emergency Services. Welcome Janet.

Next is our new Secretary - Alan Chinnock - KB7POR. Alan has been around the club for several years and is very active in "Home Brewing" antennas and working UHF/VHF SSB. He has completed a very impressive home-built Yagi for 6 meters and is working on beams for 2 meters and 440 UHF. He has done some "Mountain Topping" and is looking forward to doing more of it with his new equipment.

Our Treasurer for 1995 is Lorna Campbell - KA7RFD. Lorna works for the Records Division out in Hillsboro. I don't remember if it is for the County Sheriff or the City of Hillsboro but she has been there for some time. Lorna is also one of the first Net Control Stations for District 1 ARES (147.320 at 19:30PT daily) that I checked in with when I got my license. I had been listening to her handle net, on my scanner, for some time before I got my license. She is a very accomplished net control and I was very intent on meeting her when I came to my first OTVARC meeting. Welcome Lorna. Thanks for taking the job and helping us keep it all together.

We have four new trustees. One of them is a returning board member of several years. Brad Beach has served as the Secretary of the club for several terms and has now returned to help direct the board and listen to the membership. I really appreciated the job he did as the secretary last year and look forward to working with him this year. The next "New" trustee is Chuck Mickley - KI7CL. Chuck has been active in public and emergency services with the club as well as working with ACERT (Amateur Communications Emergency Response Team). Chuck also attended most of the board meetings last year while his wife, Betty, was serving as the Vice-President. Chuck and Betty are also very active in Sea-Pac and have hosted the Vendor's Hospitality and the Women's Hospitality rooms for the convention for several years. Those are our "2 Year" Trustees - Wes, Brad and Chuck. Welcome (or welcome back) to the board for 1995.

We have two members who have been elected to the board to serve out the remainder of the two year terms as trustee's. Last year, Camber Bybee and Rick Rasch were elected to two year terms. Due to business obligations, neither of them were able to continue. Bob Cowan - KI7QI and Burt Rooke - KI7JX have been elected to finish out the year remaining. Bob owns his own company that specializes in video security systems. Bob is also very active in AMTOR and PACTOR and enjoys Digital HF very much. Burt holds the distinction of the only person I know who actually hired a high-school football team to pack his tower up the hill to his house. Burt is also the person who teaches the Ham Radio Class through PCC. Burt says that he has a way to help anybody (even me) learn CW well enough to pass the 13 WPM exam. As soon as I have some time, I am going to take him up on it and see if I can finally upgrade.

Well, there you have it. The board for 1995. It is a great group of people but we are not miracle workers. We can only make it work with your help. Get involved. You will find several articles by Randy - KZ7T in this issue of the oscillator. Take time to read the articles and consider becoming active. Better yet, don't just consider it - DO IT! Catch you all later.

73 - (:<} The Old Grey Bear

Two wrongs don't make a right
but
three rights make a left.....

Minutes of Board Meeting 12/7/94

1. Meeting called to order @ 7:05PM by President Bill Merwin.

2. Those in attendance were Bill Merwin, Betty Mickley, Al Berg, Lynn Hurd, Randy Stimson, Lorna Campbell, & Chuck Mickley.

3. Motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of November's minutes.

4. 501 (c) 3--Nothing new from Wes (K7WWG), the lawyer was busy.

5. Repeater--Nothing new to report from Wes (K7WWG).

6. Ballots--Mailed before December 1st deadline, approximately 240 to all club members. Returned ballots & membership forms to be separated, all checks to be copied before deposit, to help with transition to newly-elected Treasurer.

7. Taxes--Filed for 1993, moved & seconded to pay bill for tax preparation.

8. Holiday party--On track, Larson Antennas will contribute a raffle prize.

9. January club meeting--Speaker from Tri-Met on the Light Rail Tunnel Project.

10. Cable sales--Less than half a roll left.

11. Financial report--Club purchases in '93 exceeded Net income. Continued use of club monies essential for successful completion of application for Non-Profit 501 (c) 3 status.

12. Awards--Bill recommended that periodically, the club should recognize those who have made major contributions to the club. Randy to recruit a chairperson to head up a committee, with the first presentation at the January club meeting.

13. Health & welfare--Motion made & seconded to contribute $500 to the Beaverton Elks for needy families in Washington County to their Christmas food basket program.

14. Club motivation--Several activities were discussed to increase club member involvement and public awareness, including events that had been done in the past.
    - VA Hospital Message handling
    - Video nite (day)
    - Roadside Cleanup
    - Rest stop coffee break
    - Scout groups
    - Beaverton Good Neighbor days
    - Emergency preparedness displays (Washington Square)
    - Club greeters (names & pictures of visitors in club newsletter)
    - Building a clubhouse

15. Motion made & seconded to adjourn @ 8:42PM

16. Respecfully submitted by A/secretary Chuck Mickley.

With Sympathy

It is with sadness that I note the passing of Donna Schaff, wife of Paul Schaff - WB7BBG. Donna passed away December 30, 1994. Our thoughts go out to you Paul, in your hour of need.

From the outgoing VP's desk

Betty - N7REX

JANUARY 11th CLUB MEETING

A corporate, mandatory meeting scheduled for the same night forced the lightrail presentation to have to be recheduled for March. At newsletter deadline, both Janet, the incoming VP, and Betty, the outgoing VP, are scrambling for a speaker for January. Come to the meeting to see what we were able to come up with given short notice and it being during the holidays.

FEBRUARY 8TH CLUB MEETING

Steve Bihler, N7RYO, will present a program about Amateur Communication Emergency Response Team (ACERT). Acert is a fledgling Ares group whose primary response is as communications liaison to the city of Beaverton, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R), 911 center (WACCA), Meridian Park Hospital, and the city of Tualatin. The group is a little over a year old but can boast of its successful inclusion in the Quake-X exercise with the city of Beaverton and TVF&R. The most recent exercise held in December of 1994 gave the group important information regarding packet communication between the primary response sites.

Personal note to the General Membership:

Thank you for the opportunity to be the interim Vice President. A special thanks to Chris Black who had made the first contact with most of our 1994 speakers and passed the list on when he resigned.

Thank you to all the others who knowing that I was more service oriented than technically oriented helped me by suggesting other interesting speakers. My hope is that you will extend the same courtesy to Janet, our new Vice President.

Thanks to all who helped make this year's holiday party a success. Special thanks to Mary Berg, N7TRW, and Chuck, KI7CL for helping decorate the meeting room. Also thanks to those club members who donated items for the festivities: Bob Orr, WF7Q, donated a bottle of wine from the TEMPEST vineyard owned and operated by his son Keith; Wes Allen, K7WWG, donated 3 bags of Anderson connectors; Mary Berg, N7TRW, donated all of the little YL knee-hi packages; and finally thanks to Will Sheffield, N7THL, who brought a portable CD player as backup for our music. At the end of the event three people stayed to help Chuck and I clean up. The help of Janet Bell, WB7FJC; Van VanNess, KE7BB; and Steve Stewart, WA7ZCL were very much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank Bill and the rest of the 1994 board for welcoming me as a mid-year replacement and helping make my job easier.

73 to all. Betty

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THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.

November 17, 1994

OTVARC
Randy Stimson, KZ7T
9890 SW Inglewood Street
Portland OR 97225

Dear Randy,

We are asking clubs, individuals and Industry to make a tax-deductible contribution toward a reprinting of Archie comics. When hams do Amateur Radio demos to kids, they're much more comfortable if they have comics to give to the kids--and so much more demos are done. When teachers aren't real familiar with ham radio, they use the comic to help explain the hobby. We know that between the Technician License, the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment program, teachers who use ham radio in school, and the comics, we're gaining more young hams. Look at FCC statistics on licensees under ages 21--each month the number increases anywhere from 300 to 700-- a phenomena we've only noticed since 1990. Slowly, but surely, the average age of hams is going down.

A minimum print-run of comics is 100,000; this costs around $19,000. (Jazzier comics, or changing the present story line, costs more.) Each year, we ship about 50,000 comics to hams who do demos to youth--and we have completely run out of the comics. Kids like the comic, and because of the expense, hams are told to give the comics only to kids o have that sparkle in their eyes when they hear about ham radio, or look like they'll take time to read it. There is a stapled-in, postage-paid card that brings the kids a booklet about ham radio, including a list of clubs, classes and examiners in their area. A sheet, which lists companies and clubs that contribute toward a reprinting, accompanies all packages of comics that are shipped from ARRL.

Please ask your club to consider giving $50, $100, $250 or what your members can afford. Checks should be accompanied by a note that says "For the next reprint of Archie comics," and lists the official club name. It's for the future good of our great hobby!

73,

Rosalie White, WA1STO
Educational Activities Manager

Let your board know how you feel about supporting this cause

PUBLIC SERVICE ROUND-UP

Public Service Events for 1995

Randy - KZ7T

There will be some new and re-started public service events in 1995. There will be two new events for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. In August there will be one called "Run for the Border" which will start in Astoria and finish in Ashland on the third Weekend. The second one is Bike-Tober-Fest - I think that is how you spell it - on Sept. 24th at Hagg Lake. I would like all new OTVARC members to help me on these.

The next would be one of the re-starts. We did the Beaverton Good Neighbor Days for a few years and I would like to put it back in the schedule. The next one would be between Thanksgiving and Christmas. We would go up to the VA Hospital and send messages for the Vet's who are stranded there during the holiday season. This is one of the most rewarding events that I use to do and really want to bring it back. We will need a packet station as well as a two meter station at the hospital. Lorna's sorority group goes through the hospital and gets the messages. That doesn't mean that some of our people can't help. You will hear more about these events as the year passes.

Let's get involved with Public Service. It is a great source of good press for our hobby.

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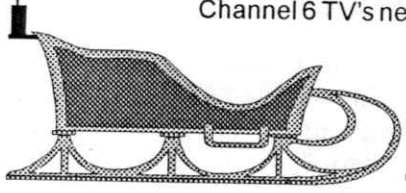
Hams Help Santa

The Santa Claus Parade on the day after Thanksgiving traditionally ushers Santa and the Holiday Season into downtown Portland. For the fourth year in a row, a group of hardy Hams braved the elements to help make sure that Santa's appearance was on time and without incident. The Hams helping were N7VZD, W7DYX, WA7YEC, KB7POR, N7REX, KI7CL, KA7SIK, N7VZF, KA7YKR, N7NVC, KA6KLA and KB7ADH. A simplex frequency and K7WWG's 440.350 repeater were used to keep track of the front and end units. Hams also helped match the parade flow with Channel 6 TV's needs for commercial breaks.



In a thank you letter, the parade organizers were very appreciative of the help the Hams provided. They stated that the Hams "Were invaluable in providing communications and other course monitoring duties for the event. You are always on time and willing to jump in wherever you are needed. We had many comments from the Portland Police and Meier and Frank VIP's regarding your group's professional manner and the thoroughness with which you get the job done. The parade continues to grow larger and we feel very fortunate to continue to have your group's strong support at the event."

Thanks to K7WWG (for the use of the repeater), N7VZF (for the cross-band link), ARRG (for approving use of the 442.225 repeater as a backup repeater), and to all of the Hams who helped. Anyone interested in helping with this event in 1995 can contact KB7ADH - Jim at 245-2518.

N7VZF Demos Ham Radio to 4-5 class at Durham Elementary

On Thursday, December 10th, I ventured to Durham Elementary School in Tigard to make a presentation on Ham radio to the combined 4-5 grades. Little did I know though that I was going to be upstaged by a bird.

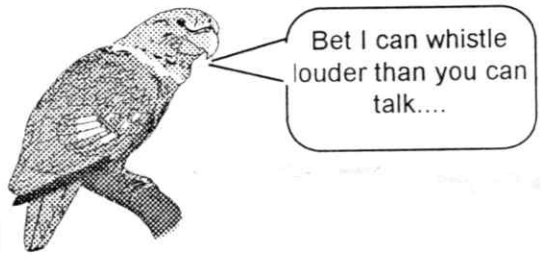
I had been contacted by a student from the class to make a presentation to their class who was studying the various aspects of radio communications. The young lady had stated that I had about 15 minutes to give a demonstration and answer questions from the students. She had obtained my name and phone number from Ham Radio Outlet and wasn't even sure what Ham radio was but she said she would like to learn.

I packed up my portable VHF/UHF station (HT, 300ohm J-Pole, power supply, etc), and headed to the school. When I arrived I found that I was to be second on the program. The first speaker was a programming director from one of the local FM music stations who ended her presentation by handing out "goodies" to each student. I was concerned how I could compete with "POGS" and stickers when all I had was a supply of QSL cards and call-sign business cards. Not only that, but I was to be the last speaker before lunch. I have three children who are or have been that age and I knew how their attention wandered just before meals.....I girded up my loins and braced for the blank stares.

I went through a little on the history of radio, how Hams got their name (see article in this issue), how we served the public during emergencies, the countries I had talked to etc. I could tell I wasn't really making any points and was losing their attention. I decided it was time to bring out the "A" material. I pulled out my trusty HTX-202 and put out a call on the 146.90 repeater. Prior to the appointed time, I had contacted Roland - K7MCJ and Terry - AA7ZO and asked that they stand by for a demo if needed. It was needed. The first person I contacted was Terry. No more than we had started chatting about radio when "Bongo", Terry's African Grey parrot, started whistling. You should have seen the kid's faces. Their eyes were riveted on the radio in my hand. Bongo you see, figures any time Terry is on the radio, it is time to do his best tricks. Just about every time that Terry keyed up, Bongo would let go with a whistle that rattled the windows and the kids would giggle more. It was getting to the point where communications were next to impossible. I decided it was time to try something new. I called Roland and had him introduce himself. They listened politely to Roland explain that he had worked at Portland State University and that he was in a wheel chair. They seemed interested that ham radio gave Roland a chance to visit places that he would not otherwise have the access.

I decided to finish up the presentation by answering questions and allowing the kids to talk to either Terry or Roland. Did they ask about all the places that we had talked? Did they ask how long we had been hams? Did they ask what it took to get a license? No to all of the above. They wanted to talk to Bongo. They asked Terry to have Bongo whistle or talk; what types of tricks Bongo could do; how old was Bongo; where was Bongo from; what did Bongo look like. The next 10 minutes were taken up with kids and birds. One of the young ladies in the class did ask if Roland or Terry had ever talked to her home country of India but seemed to be disappointed when they both replied that they hadn't. Not to worry, she then asked if Terry had other birds like Bongo.

All in all, I think it went well. The teacher was happy with the presentation and the students were very polite when I handed out the QSL cards at the end of class. I was even invited to lunch with the class. Unfortunately, I had another appointment to keep so I had to decline the offer. That was very disappointing for the students because by now, I think the who school had heard about Bongo and were hoping that they could hear him over the radio. I guess I understand why W.C. Fields had such a thing about working with Kids and Animals.... But, I would do it again in a minute.



Awards Committee

Randy - KZ7T

I would like to try and set up an awards committee. This committee would issue awards for many different situations. By that I mean we would give awards for outstanding service to the club, another organization or even to an individual. There would also be awards for fun or any other thing that you can think of. We will not limit them to any one category. What we need is for you, the OTVARC members, to let up know what person you would like to get an award. The one thing I need is to get two more people on this committee so we could not have a tie if we need to vote. Bill, N7VZF, has a computer program that will generate a very nice certificate and if we find it necessary to have a plaque then we will buy it. Come and see me at the meeting if you would like to get on this committee.

Thank you - Randy

OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board

President	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Vice President	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Secretary	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	620-2057
Treasurer	Lorna Campbell	KA7RFD	591-1891
Trustee	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
Trustee	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
Trustee	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	642-1284
Trustee	Bob Cowan	KI7QI	699-9213
Trustee	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891

Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	297-2732
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	Rich Jones	KG7FS	645-9417
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare	OPEN		
Member Badges	Terry Sparks	AA7ZO	628-0372
Newsletter Editor	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	640-8873
Newsletter Layout	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	883-8504
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Nomination of Officers	Van Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Project Night	OPEN		
Public Relations	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	N7PEX	640-0217
Satellites	Red Robert	AA7CP	357-5747
Scholarship	Exec.Board	N7VZF	644-1974
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Technical	OPEN		
Tower Ordinances	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(Code)	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Novice/Tech)	Burt Rooke	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Upgrade)	OPEN		
VE Testing	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
VE Test Schedule	P.A.R.I.S.	N7VIC	629-8933
VHF/UHF	Bill Roth	N7RYW	297-7605

BORSCH ELECTRONICS

Communications Servicing

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Joe Borsch W7PNS (503) 684-5201

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1994 are as follows:

Full Page	8" X 10"	$200 for 6 mo.
Half Page	8" X 5"	$125 for 6 mo.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	$75 for 6 mo.
Bus. Card	2" X 3"	$35 for 6 mo.

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less then $6.

Membership OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, $10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), $10/yr; Family members of full member, $5/yr; Life memberships available - see Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club Treasurer for prorated dues.

How To Join: Simply mail the Member Application and Renewal Form along with your dues to the address above.

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Address Correction Requested